**SESSION- SPRING 2024**

**PROGRAM- Master of Arts**

**SEMESTER- Ist**

**COURSE CODE & NAME- MAEC105 GENDER Studies IN LITERATURE**

**Assignment Set – 1ST**

**Questions**

**1. Critically analyse the poem Mad Girl’s Love Song and show how the tension between the internal world and the external world takes the Centre stage in this poem of Plath.**

**Ans:"Mad Girl’s Love Song"** is a villanelle by Sylvia Plath, showcasing the poet’s mastery in intertwining form and content to explore themes of love, loss, and mental turmoil. The tension between the internal world and the external world is a central theme in the poem, reflecting Plath's own struggles with depression and the fragmented nature of her inner life.

**Here is a critical analysis of the poem with a focus on this tension:**

**Structure and Form Villanelle:** The poem is written in the form of a villanelle, a 19-line poetic form with a specific rhyme scheme and repeating lines. This rigid structure contrasts

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**2. Write about the literary legacy of Maya Angelou.**

**Ans:**Maya Angelou, an acclaimed American poet, memoirist, and civil rights activist, left a profound and enduring literary legacy. Her works resonate with themes of identity, resilience, and the human spirit, reflecting her experiences as a Black woman in America. Angelou’s literary contributions extend across various genres, including poetry, autobiographies, essays, and plays.

**Here are key aspects of her literary legacy:**

**1. Autobiographical Series "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings":**

Published in 1969, this is the first and most famous of Angelou's seven autobiographies. It

**Conclusion** Maya Angelou’s literary legacy is multifaceted, encompassing her achievements as a poet, memoirist, playwright, and civil rights activist.

Her work embodies a profound exploration of identity, resilience, and the human spirit, offering both personal and collective insights into the struggles and triumphs of African Americans and women. Her voice, characterized by its strength, grace, and unflinching honesty, continues to inspire and educate, ensuring her place as a pivotal figure in American literature and culture.

**3. Write a short note on the historical significance of A Room of One’s Own.**

**Ans:**"A Room of One’s Own" is a seminal essay by Virginia Woolf, first published in 1929. Its historical significance lies in its pioneering exploration of the intersection between women, literature, and economic independence.

Woolf argues that women need both financial independence and private space to produce creative work, famously stating, "A woman must have money and a room of her own if she is to write fiction."

**The essay** is notable for its critical examination of the systemic barriers women writers have

**Assignment Set – 2ND**

**Questions**

**4. “Marge Piercy fiercely criticises the "ultimate lady fantasy" constructed by fashion magazines.” Analyse the statement with reference to the poem “What are big girls made of”.**

**Ans: Marge Piercy’s poem** "What Are Big Girls Made Of?" offers a potent critique of the "ultimate lady fantasy" constructed by fashion magazines. In this Piercy's work can be analyzed for its deconstruction of the unrealistic and often oppressive ideals of femininity propagated by media and fashion industries.

**Analysis of the Critique in "What Are Big Girls Made Of?"**

**Deconstruction of Idealized Femininity:** Piercy begins by questioning the traditional and

**5. Write your own reflection on the style and theme adopted by Rupi Kaur in her literary creations.**

**Ans:**Rupi Kaur’s literary creations, particularly her poetry collections "Milk and Honey" and "The Sun and Her Flowers," have resonated widely with contemporary readers, and their appeal lies in a distinctive style and a set of recurring themes that reflect both personal and universal experiences. Style Minimalist and Visual Presentation: Kaur’s poetry is characterized by its minimalist style. She often uses short, succinct lines that pack a punch with their brevity. This stripped-down approach allows her words to resonate deeply, giving

**6. Explain the connection between Alice Walker’s gender perspectives and the civil rights movement?**

**Ans:Alice Walker,** a prominent writer and activist, is known for her exploration of intersecting issues of gender, race, and social justice.

Her perspectives on gender are deeply intertwined with her involvement in the civil rights movement, and the connection between the two is evident in several key aspects:

**Intersectionality:** Walker’s understanding of gender perspectives is rooted in the concept of intersectionality, which recognizes that individuals hold multiple social identities (such as